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Dkt. 60084-A-PCT-US/JPW/FHB

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Stephen P. Goff and Gilda Tachedjian

International

Application No.: PCT/US01/18339

Filed : 6 June 2001

FOr : TWO-HYBRID ASSAY THAT DETECTS HIV-1

REVERSE TRANSCRIPTASE DIMERIZATION

1185 Avenue Of The Americas New York, New York 10036

November 8, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Attn: DO/EO/US

Sir:

# PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TO THE ACCOMPANYING §371 NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.53

Applicants request that the following amendment be made in the above-identified application:

#### In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 9-41, and 48-59 without disclaimer or prejudice to applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a future continuation or divisional application.

Please amend claims 47 and 64 as follows:

- 47. (Amended) The method of claim 43, wherein the HIV-1 reverse transcriptase is present in a subject and the contacting is effected by administering the compound to the subject.
- 64. (Amended) A compound which comprises the compound of claim 60 and a carrier.

#### REMARKS

This application is a §371 national stage of PCT International Application No. PCT/US01/18339, filed 6 June 2001, designating the United States of America, which is a continuation-in-part and claiming priority of U.S. Serial No. 09/588,939, filed June 6, 2000. Accordingly, the parent application, PCT International

Stephen P. Goff and Gilda Tachedjian U.S. Serial No. : Not Yet Known (§371 National Stage Application of PCT/US01/18339, filed 6 June 2001) Filed: Herewith Page 2

Application No. PCT/US01/18339, is pending today in the United States of America pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §363, and the subject continuation application is co-pending therewith in fulfillment of the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §120.

Claims 1-64 were pending in the subject application. By this Amendment applicants have canceled claims 9-41 and 48-59 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants have hereinabove amended claims 47 and 64. Applicants maintain that these amendments are made only to make the amended claims dependent on pending claims and do not raise any issue of new matter. Accordingly, upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-8, 42-47, and 60-64 will be pending and under examination. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii), applicants attach hereto as Exhibit A a version of the amended claims marked up to show the changes relative to the previous version thereof.

Applicants maintain that the amendments made hereinabove do not raise any issue of new matter. Accordingly, respectfully request entry of the Amendment.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicant's undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.

No fee other than the filing fee of \$580.00, is deemed necessary in connection with this Preliminary Amendment. However, if any additional fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

John ₱. White

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